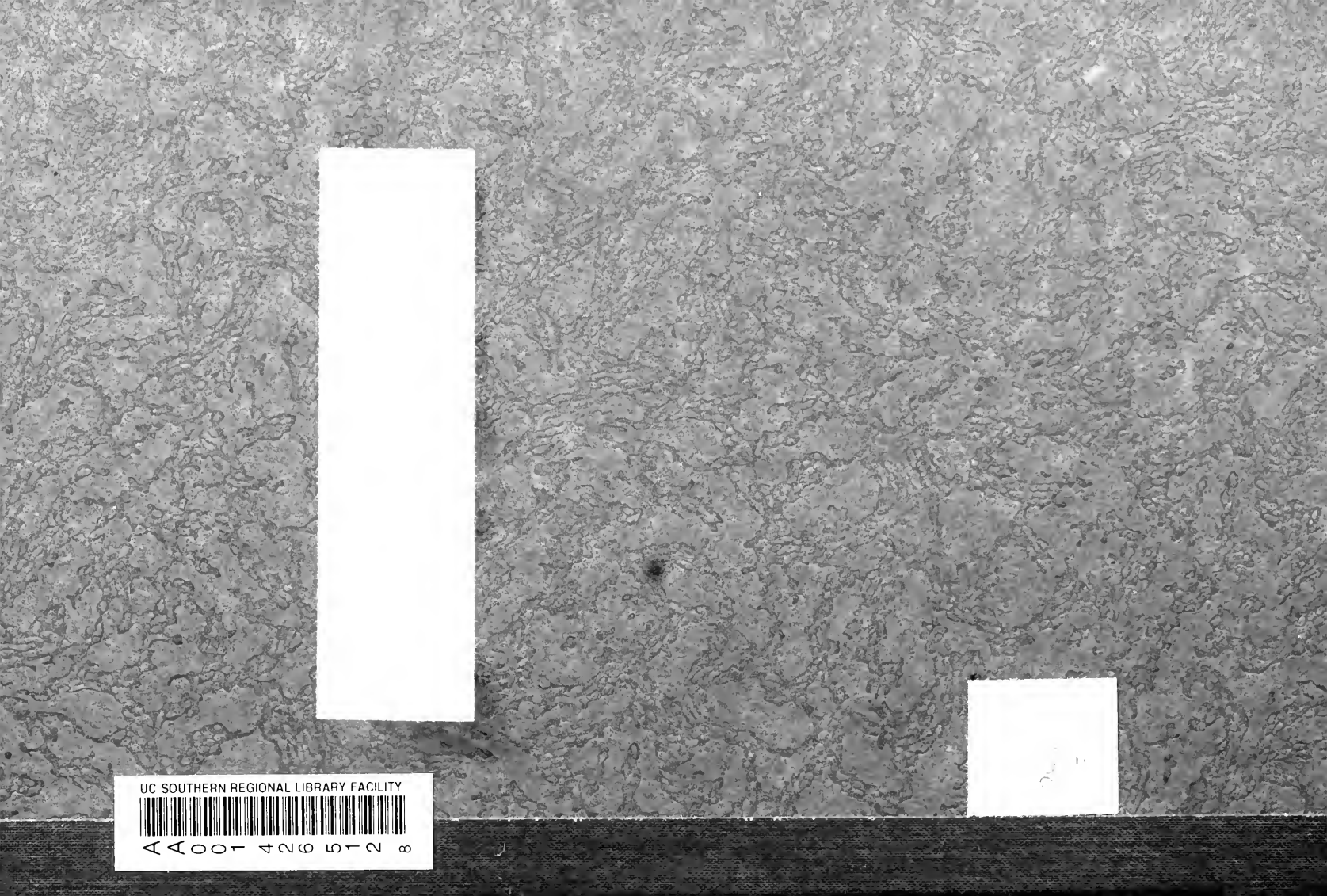
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THE

SHAKESPEARE NIGHT,

IN AID

OF THE FUND FOR THE PURCHASE AND PRESERVATION OF

Shakespeare's House.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER SEVENTH, 1847,

AT THE

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN

PRICE SIXPENCE.

☞ *The proceeds to be carried in aid of the Fund.*

UNDER THE ESPECIAL PATRONAGE OF

Her Majesty the Queen,

AND

His Royal Highness Prince Albert,

AND THE DIRECTION OF

THE LONDON COMMITTEE.

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Peter Cunningham, Esq., Treasurer.

Mr. Willmott, Stage Manager.

THE LONDON COMMITTEE

Have to express, on behalf of themselves, The Stratford Committee, and The General Subscribers to the Fund, their cordial thanks to the following Ladies and Gentlemen, for their valuable and gratuitous services on this occasion :—

To Mr. Beale, the Lessee of the Royal Italian Opera House, Covent Garden, for the free use of his Theatre, Wardrobe, and Properties.

To the following Members of the Theatrical Profession, for their sympathy and co-operation :—

Mr. Macready.
Mr. Leigh Murray.
Mr. Ryder.
Mr. Bellingham.
Mr. S. Parry.
Mr. Edgar.
Mr. Aldham.
In "The Death of Henry IV."

Mrs. Butler.
Mr. Jas. Vining.
Mr. Martin.
In "The Death of Queen Katharine."

Mr. Harley.
Mr. Buckstone.
In the Scene from "The Two Gentlemen of Verona."

Mr. W. Farren.
Mr. Granby.
Mr. Oxberry.
Mr. Woolgar.
In "Falstaff's Recruits."

Miss Helen Faucit.
Mrs. Glover.
Mr. Diddear.
Mr. A. Harris.
In "Juliet's Marriage Day."

Mr. Webster.
Mr. Keeley.
Mr. J. Bland.
Mr. Howe.
Mr. H. Vandenhoff.
Mr. Caulfield.
Mr. Gough.
Mr. Payne.
Mrs. Nesbitt.
In "Katherine and Petruchio."

Mr. C. Mathews.
Mr. Meadows.
Mr. F. Matthews.
Mr. Robert Roxby.
Mr. Parselle.
Madame Vestris.
Mrs. Stirling.
Miss Marshall.
In "The Buck-Basket Scene and Slender's Courtship."

Mr. Phelps.
Mr. H. Marston.
Mr. G. Bennett.
Miss P. Horton.
Miss Laura Addison.
In "The Story of Prospero."

Mr. Graham . . . .
Mr. J. H. Johnstone. . . .
Mr. G. Vining . . . .
Mr. Howell. . . . . } *In "The Statue Scene," from Winter's Tale.*
Mrs. Warner . . . .
Miss Angell . . . . .
Mrs. Tyrrell . . . .

To Sir Henry Bishop, for the selection and arrangement of the Music.

To Mr. T. Cooke, for the Leading the Band, which has been selected from the Philharmonic Orchestra.

To Mr. Grieve, for his selection and superintendence of the Scenery.

To Mrs. Bailey, for her superintendence of the Costume and Wardrobe.

To Mr. Charles Knight, for the Prologue.

To Mr. Phelps, for its Recitation.

To The Chartered Gas Company, for the presentation of the Gas consumed on the occasion, by which a large outlay has been saved to the fund.

And to numerous other parties, who have incidentally promoted the performance by assistance and advice, and more especially to the Managers and Manageresses of the following Theatres, who, in addition to giving their own services, have also, by their arrangements, to their own detriment, sanctioned the withdrawal of various Actors and Actresses from their Theatres, for the occasion:—

Mr. Webster, of the Theatre Royal, Haymarket.

Madame Vestris, of the Theatre Royal, Lyceum.

Mr. Maddox, of the Theatre Royal, Princess'.

Mr. Phelps, of the Theatre Royal, Sadler's Wells.

Mrs. Warner, of the Theatre Royal, Marylebone.

A PROLOGUE

WRITTEN FOR THE OCCASION BY

MR. CHARLES KNIGHT,

AND

SPOKEN BY MR. PHELPS.

The Macedonian stood within the gates
Of the devoted Thebes. Relentless hates
Ask'd to be loos'd in bloodshed and in fire:
Spare not—the conqueror cried:—Yet stay! the lyre
Of glorious Pindarus in Thebes was strung—
Search for his House these fated piles among;
Perish the city, down with every tower,
But save, from ruin save the Muses' sacred bower.

The victor Time has stood on Avon's side
To doom the fall of many a home of pride;
Rapine o'er Evesham's gilded fane has strode,
And gorgeous Kenilworth has paved the road:
But Time has gently laid his withering hands
On one frail House—the House of Shakespeare stands;
Centuries are gone—fallen "the cloud-capp'd tow'rs;"
But Shakespeare's home, his boyhood's home is ours.

Ye, who this night kind greetings bring to cheer
The histrionic groups assembled here,—
Cherish the task, with reverent love to hold
One relic of our drama's age of gold—
For there, where Avon's long-immortal wave
Lingers in willowy banks by Shakespeare's grave,—

The Pilgrims come: Ohio and the Rhine
Send forth their worshippers to Stratford's shrine,—
And still they come, to hail, from every clime,
The Poet of all countries and "all time."

Perchance, in some dark hour, a venal stage
May leave to bookworms Shakespeare's living page;
Fit on the buskins to some Newgate gang,
And give the comic mask to drunken slang:
Then, when no tear shall fall for Juliet's woe,
Falstaff be voted dull, and Hamlet "slow,"—
Then, ere new Bettertons and Garricks rise
To win the crowd from scenes the good despise,—
The lowly roof, which you are here to claim
From cold neglect or desecration's shame,
May stand, the trophy of a nobler taste—
A beacon-light amidst the drama's waste.

Yes! when a race unborn shall gather round
His hallowed roof, and consecrated ground,
And secret tears, and smiles of sudden glee,
Attest his sway—the mind's own jubilee;
Remembrance, perhaps, may turn to this "brief hour,"
Which yields *our* feeble homage to his power:
For here th' assembled Nation stands to say,
Our Shakespeare's home is snatch'd from quick decay;—
Is the work finish'd—or but yet begun?
Complete! Maintain! Do all that needs be done!—
Yes! England's heart now beats at Shakespeare's call—
The Muses' bower is saved—your's is the pledge for All.

THE

PERFORMANCE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER SEVENTH, 1847.

Music.

BEETHOVEN'S

OVERTURE TO "CORIOLANUS."

I.

THE DEATH OF HENRY IV.

Second Part of King Henry IV. Act IV.

A CHAMBER IN THE PALACE AT WESTMINSTER.

King Henry	Mr. Macready.
Henry, Prince of Wales . . .	Mr. Leigh Murray.
Prince Thomas of Clarence . .	Mr. Aldham.
Prince John of Lancaster . . .	Mr. S. Parry.
Prince Humphrey of Gloster . .	Mr. Bellingham.
Lord Chief Justice	Mr. Ryder.
Earl of Westmoreland . . .	Mr. Edgar.
Pages to the King	Mr. Andrews. Mr. Smith.

II.

THE DEATH OF QUEEN KATHARINE.

Henry the Eighth. Act IV.

A CHAMBER IN KIMBOLTON CASTLE.

Queen Katharine		Mrs. Butler.
Patience *Agatha* *Cicely*	Her Attendants . .	Miss Andrews. Miss Bellamy. Miss Johnson.
Cromwell		Mr. James Vining.
Guilford		Mr. Aldham.
Capucius		Mr. Martin.

III.

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA.

Part of Act the Third.

A STREET IN VERONA.

Launce	MR. HARLEY.
Speed	MR. BUCKSTONE.

SIR HENRY BISHOP'S

OVERTURE, INTRODUCING POPULAR AIRS FROM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS.

IV.

FALSTAFF'S RECRUITS BEFORE JUSTICE SHALLOW.

Second Part of King Henry IV. Act III., Scene 2.

AN ORCHARD BEFORE JUSTICE SHALLOW'S HOUSE.

Justice Shallow		MR. W. FARREN.
Justice Silence		MR. DARCIE.
Falstaff		MR. GRANBY.
Bardolph		MR. WOOLGAR.
Mouldy,	Recruits	MR. TURNOUR.
Shadow,		MR. FORTESCUE.
Wart,		MR. MANDALE.
Feeble,		MR. OXBERRY.
Bullcalf,		MR. C. R. BUTLER.
Davy		MR. ANDREWS.

MENDELSSOHN'S

OVERTURE TO "THE MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM."

V.

JULIET'S MARRIAGE DAY.

Romeo and Juliet. The Fourth Act entire.

Scene 1. THE CLOISTERS.—Scene 2. A CHAMBER IN CAPULET'S HOUSE.—Scene 3. JULIET'S BEDROOM.

Lady Capulet	MISS O'HARA.
Juliet	MISS HELEN FAUCIT.
Nurse	MRS. GLOVER.
Capulet	MR. J. RYAN.
Paris	MR. A. HARRIS.
Friar Lawrence	MR. DIDDEAR.

VI.

KATHERINE AND PETRUCHIO.

Taming of the Shrew. Portions of Act I. and Act IV.

A GOTHIC HALL.

Petruchio	MR. WEBSTER.
Baptista	MR. GOUGH.
Grumio	MR. KEELEY.
Gremio	MR. BLAND.
Hortensio	MR. HOWE.
Lucentio	MR. VANDENHOFF.
Curtis	MR. CAULFIELD.
Vincentio	MR. PAYNE.
Biondello	MR. TURNOUR.
Katherina	MRS. NISBETT.
Widow	MRS. GATES.
Bianca	MISS EVERINGTON.

VII.

THE BUCK-BASKET AND SLENDER'S COURTSHIP.

The Merry Wives of Windsor. Act III., 3rd and 4th Scenes; Act IV., Scene 1.

CHAMBERS IN FORD'S HOUSE.

Falstaff	MR. GRANBY.
Ford	MR. ROBERT ROXBY.
Page	MR. PARSELLE.
Sir Hugh Evans	MR. MEADOWS.
Shallow	MR. F. MATTHEWS.
Dr. Caius	MR. JAS. BLAND.
Slender	MR. CHAS. MATHEWS.
Robin	MISS WARD.
Mrs. Page	MADAME VESTRIS.
Mrs. Ford	MRS. STIRLING.
Anne Page	MISS MARSHALL.

VIII.

THE STORY OF PROSPERO.

Tempest. Act I., Scene 2.

THE ISLAND BEFORE THE CELL OF PROSPERO.

Prospero	MR. PHELPS.
Ferdinand	MR. H. MARSTON.
Caliban	MR. G. BENNETT.
Ariel	MISS P. HORTON.
Miranda	MISS LAURA ADDISON.

IX.

THE STATUE SCENE.

A Winter's Tale. Act V., Scene *last.*

A ROOM IN PAULINA'S HOUSE.

Leontes	MR. GRAHAM.
Polixenes	MR. J. H. JOHNSTON.
Florizel	MR. G. VINING.
Camillo	MR. HOWELL.
Hermione	MRS. WARNER.
Perdita	MISS ANGELL.
Pauline	MRS. TYRRELL.

LORDS AND LADIES, &c.

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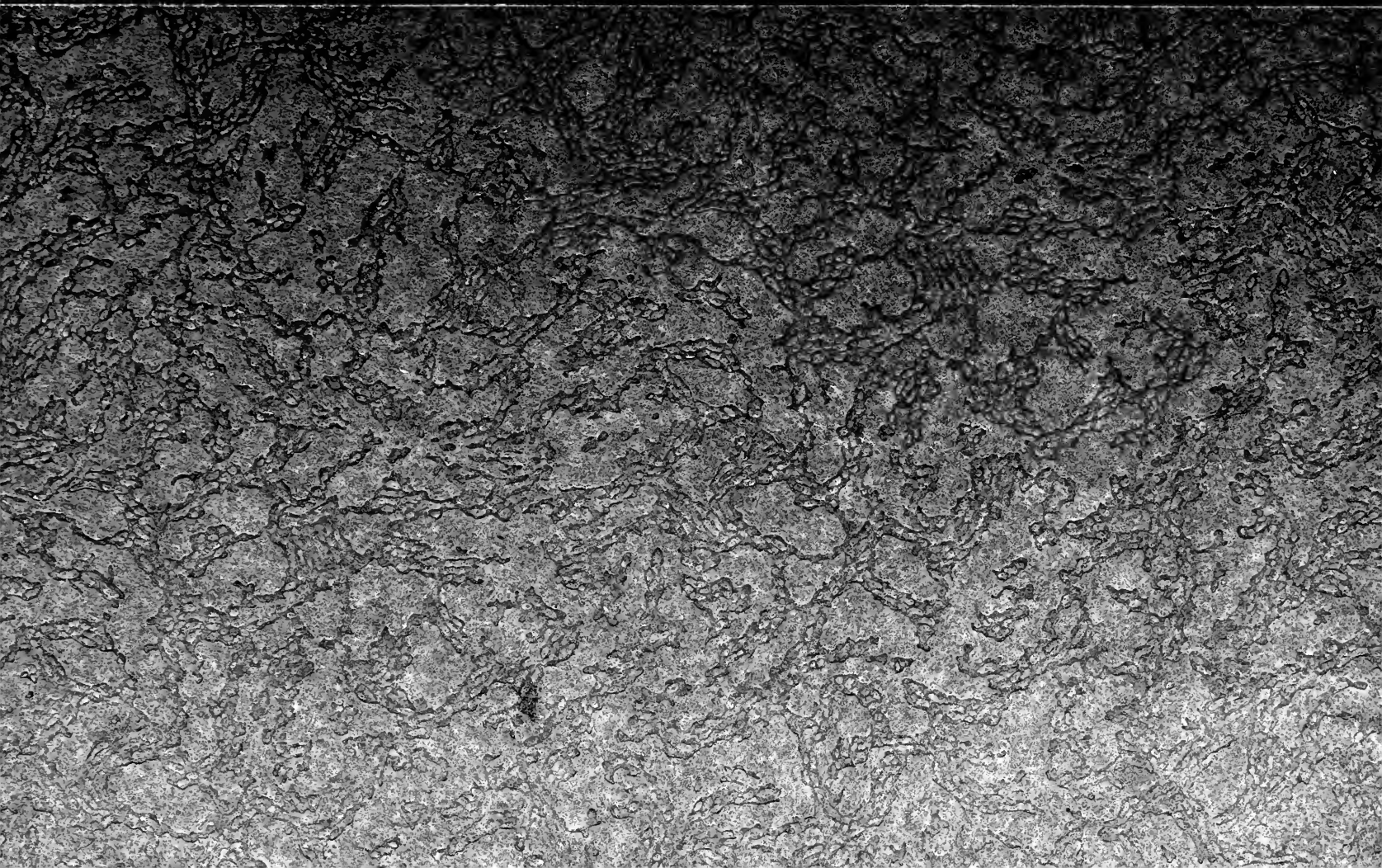
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